The aim of this study was to describe the oral health, general health status and medication use of elderly dental patients. 709 voluntary patients, aged 60 years and over, who attended Suleyman Demirel University Faculty of Dentistry for routine dental treatment between March 2008 and April 2009 in Isparta, Turkey, were interviewed for demographic data, systemic diseases, and lists of medications. The majority of the patients (84.4%) had poor oral hygiene according to the Oral Hygiene Index (OHI). The mean level of the study population's decayed, missing, and filled teeth (DMFT) index score was 19.1 ± 7.3. The prevalence of systemic diseases was high (90%). Women were affected by a significantly higher incidence of systemic diseases than men (96.4% vs. 84.3%; P < 0.001). The percentage of the elderly taking medication regularly was 72.6%. Drug adverse effects were determined in 25.5% of the study population, with more adverse effects observed in women (53.3%) than men (46.7%) (P < 0.001). Dentists must be aware of the dental implications that may arise from systemic diseases and medications and should properly modify elderly patients' treatment accordingly.